

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6167

BILL NUMBER: SB 181

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 4, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: County Option Surcharges on State Park Fees.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Nugent

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows a county containing a state park, forest, game preserve, recreation area, or reservoir to impose a surcharge on fees collected within the park or other area. The bill requires that proceeds of the surcharge be used to assist the unit of local government that provides police protection, fire protection, emergency medical services, or road repairs to the park or other entity. It provides that the surcharge may not be collected on property that is owned by the United States Army Corps of Engineers unless the surcharge is approved by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Effective Date: July 1, 2004.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) would report and pay the surcharge to the county treasurer. This provision will increase administrative expenditures for the DNR by an indeterminable amount.

Explanation of State Revenues: The DNR collects approximately \$11.8 M annually in fees as defined in the proposal (not including Army Corp of Engineer's property). If those DNR properties were subject to the 5% surcharge, the DNR would collect an additional \$590,000 to distribute to local units. An additional \$223,435, or 5% of \$4.4M, would be collected if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approved of the surcharge on federal property, which basically consists of reservoirs.

The 5% increase could initially reduce current fees collected by the DNR if some customers are unwilling to pay an increased fee.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: Counties containing DNR properties would be eligible to assess a 5% surcharge on fees collected by the DNR. If the DNR properties were subject to the surcharge, local units would receive an estimated \$590,000 annually for state properties and \$223,435 for federal properties, assuming current fee collection rates. The surcharge must be used to assist the local unit of government that provides police protection, fire protection, emergency medical services, or road repairs to the park.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources.

Local Agencies Affected: Local units of government that provide police protection, fire protection, emergency medical services, or road repairs to DNR properties.

Information Sources: Mickey James, Controller's Office, DNR.

Fiscal Analyst: Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.